



LEE COUNTY
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Information Release

Board Of County Commissioners

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OrganicLee® COMPOST NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE URBAN LAND INSTITUTE'S SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT AWARD

FORT MYERS, Fla. (October 5, 2012) – During the 5th Annual Sustainability Symposium held today by the Urban Land Institute (ULI) in Fort Myers, the Lee County Solid Waste Division received the ULI's prestigious Sustainability Impact Award for the production of its OrganicLee® Compost.

OrganicLee® is produced by composting yard waste and biosolids. These waste products are processed to create a value added product that is beneficial to agricultural and residential gardening needs. Processing of these wastes decreases the dependence on landfills and reduces the community's carbon footprint. Given the sandy characteristic of SW Florida soils, amending the soil with compost provides long term benefits to the areas landscaping and agriculture practices. OrganicLee® Compost is approved for use during the fertilizer block-out periods by both Lee County and the City of Cape Coral fertilizer ordinance.

OrganicLee® Compost has supported over a dozen of local community gardens and has provided educational outreach about the benefits of compost which includes responsible nutrient management, soil and water conservation, and recycling.

About Lee County's Solid Waste Division:

The Lee County Solid Waste Division has provided residents and businesses with reliable and economical waste and recycling management services for more than two decades. During this time the County has developed and expanded a system designed to optimize the value of the various waste materials for reuse, recycling, and energy production. The production of OrganicLee® Compost has proven to be another well received program by residents and

commercial growers and further proves the Division's commitment and participation in achieving Lee County's mission.

About the Urban Land Institute (ULI): ULI is a nonprofit research and education organization supported by its members. Founded in 1936, the Institute has members who represent the entire spectrum of land use and real estate development disciplines, working in private enterprise and public service. ULI's Mission is to provide leadership in the responsible use of land and creating and sustaining thriving communities worldwide. ###